

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03

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USIA-15 COME-00 EB-11 LAB-06 SIL-01 CU-04 DRC-01

NIC-01 /117 W

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R 211525Z MAR 74

FM AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8128

INFO AMCONSUL ASMARA

AMEMBASSY KHARTOUM

AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L ADDIS ABABA 3168

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PINT ET

SUBJECT: ETHIOPIAN DEVELOPMENTS

REFS: (A) ADDIS 2952 AND 3037;

(B) USDAO MSG 0178MAR74 DTG 21/1430ZMAR74

1. POLICE AND SECURITY SERVICE SOURCES TOLD EMBOFFS IN REPLY QUESTION MARCH 21 THAT GALLA TROUBLES (SECOND ADDIS REFTEL) NOW UNDER CONTROL. WE UNDERSTAND THAT SIGNIFICANT POLICE REINFORCEMENTS HAVE BEEN SENT TO TROUBLE SPOTS AND HAVE NO RPT NO WORD OF FURTHER INCIDENTS AT THIS TIME. USG PERSONNEL HAVE BEEN APPROPRIATELY CAUTIONED.

2. STUDENT/TEACHER SITUATION REMAINS CHECKERED (CF FIRST ADDIS REFTEL). PRESS, MARCH 20, REPORTED TEACHERS ASSOCIATION HAD AGREED SEND ITS MEMBERS BACK TO WORK. THEY BEGAN RETURNING AND MOVEMENT AMPLIFIED TODAY. ADDIS SECONDARY SCHOOLS APPEAR BE BACK IN BUSINESS AND WE UNDERSTAND THIS ALSO INCREASINGLY TRUE IN COUNTRYSIDE. HSIU TEACHERS AND STUDENTS STILL OUT
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WITH GRIEVANCE MEETINGS SUCCEEDING EACH OTHER WITHOUT

APPARENT EFFECT.

3. PRESS, MARCH 21, CARRIED MEMBERSHIP NEWLY NAMED CONSTITUTIONAL CONFERENCE MEMBERSHIP (ADDIS 2863 PARA 1). ARTICLE BEING POUCHED. INITIAL SCAN OUR BIO HOLDINGS SUGGESTS GROUP LIKELY PROVE COMPETENT AND REPRESENTS BROAD SPECTRUM OF ETHIOPIAN SOCIETY (E.G. CROWN COUNCIL, JUDICIARY, MOSLEMS, ACADEMIC, FINANCE AND PARLIAMENT).

4. LABOR SITUATION REMAINS TENSE WITH REPORTS OF IMPENDING STRIKES OR SLOWDOWNS BY UNORGANIZED WORKERS (NOTABLY MUNICIPAL EMPLOYEES AND OTHER CIVIL SERVANTS) DEMANDING CONCRETE BENEFITS NOW. CELU REMAINS DELUGED BY REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE IN ORGANIZATION OF NEW UNIONS.

5. MILITARY ALSO CONTINUE HAVE PROBLEMS. THERE WAS ARMED CONFRONTATION IN HARRAR TODAY BETWEEN REBELLIOUS ENLISTED MEN, ACCORDING TO SOME REPORTS SUPPORTED BY A SIGNIFICANT SEGMENT OF THE MILITARY ACADEMY'S CORPS OF CADETS, AND THIRD DIVISION TROOPS WHICH LEFT ONE MAN DEAD AND ONE CRITICALLY WOUNDED. REF USDAO REPORT CONTAINS DETAILS.

WYMAN

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